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BOOK NOTES

The "American Art Annual," which appeared too late for review in our last issue, is a compactly-made volume of 540 pages. The labor of compilation must have been immense, and we congratulate the editor, Florence N. Levy, 178 West 75th Street, New York City, for the manner of presentation, the accuracy of the data, and the undoubted usefulness of the work for reference for writers and students of American art. Charles Henry Hart of Philadelphia has, by way of introduction, a brief but authoritative chapter on "The First Century and a Half of American Art." Then follow various chapters on reviews of exhibitions, foreign and native, lists of artists, sales, museums, schools, clubs, etc., in fact anything or body that has connection with American art.

The book is illustrated by half-tone engravings of a too miscellaneous character, and offers grounds for criticism. A better choice throughout would have elevated the standard and importance of the book. A weakness, which is common in works of this kind, is a lack of judicious discrimination, a relation of importance between elements in the same class of things. This is inevitable in an initial production, and will undoubtedly be improved upon in future annual issues. As an art directory alone it fills a want that nothing else in the field supplies; while as a chronicler of past events, and as an index of what is going on, it is unique and very valuable. We heartily commend it to editors, writers, and artists, for it is a reference book that is easily the best of its kind. (The MacMillan Co., New York.)



There is little that can be said about Egypt that has not been said before; but in the way of condensation and by illustration much of interest can be repeated with profit to the reader. "Egypt, the Land of the Temple Builders," by Walter Scott Perry, Art Director of Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, N. Y., (Prang Educational Company, publishers) is a *multum in parvo* volume of 250 pages, and so copiously illustrated by beautiful half-tones, that it is almost an album of pictures of the nature and art of Egypt. Many of the pictures are new, and are reproduced here for the first time, giving the volume a unique interest. The book treats largely of the architecture of the temples and tombs, and chapters on sculpture and decoration complete the *resumé* of this early art. It is not a work for scholars so much as it is a handbook for students who want in a small compass a comprehensive idea of the character and peculiar charm of the art of this wonderful civilization of antiquity, the cradle-home of the arts and sciences. It is a valuable book for schools, and as a side study for reading might be of great usefulness. The illustrations, which are exceptionally fine, tell the story of Egypt's greatness almost without the use of the text which is written in a very attractive and interesting style.